

**IRON ORE STATISTICS**  
**By Thomas D. Kelly and William S. Kirk**  
[All values in metric tons (t) unless otherwise noted]  
**Last modification: April 29, 2002**

Year	Production	Shipments	Imports	Exports	Stocks	Apparent consumption	Unit value (\$/t)	Unit value (98\$/t)	World production
1900	27,995,000		912,000	52,300	9,770,000	28,900,000	2.35	46.00	
1901	29,351,000		982,000	65,700	10,300,000	29,700,000	1.68	33.00	
1902	36,125,000		1,180,000	89,900	11,100,000	36,400,000	1.82	34.00	
1903	35,581,000		996,000	81,900	12,900,000	34,700,000	1.88	34.00	
1904	28,088,000		495,000	217,000	10,600,000	30,700,000	1.55	28.00	95,482,200
1905	43,209,000		859,000	211,000	10,400,000	44,100,000	1.75	32.00	115,567,600
1906	48,516,000		1,080,000	270,000	10,200,000	49,500,000	2.09	38.00	
1907	52,551,000		1,250,000	283,000	10,600,000	53,100,000	2.53	44.00	
1908	36,561,000		789,000	314,000	14,700,000	32,900,000	2.25	41.00	
1909	51,976,000		1,720,000	463,000	15,300,000	52,600,000	2.13	39.00	
1910	57,803,000	57,800,000	2,630,000	761,000	19,200,000	55,800,000	2.46	43.00	160,074,200
1911	44,581,000	41,800,000	1,840,000	781,000	21,400,000	43,400,000	1.98	35.00	130,974,700
1912	56,056,000	57,900,000	2,140,000	1,210,000	20,600,000	57,800,000	1.95	33.00	149,053,100
1913	62,975,000	60,600,000	2,640,000	1,060,000	22,400,000	62,800,000	2.12	34.90	180,419,900
1914	42,105,000	40,400,000	1,370,000	560,000	22,500,000	42,800,000	1.76	28.60	115,739,600
1915	56,418,000	56,400,000	1,360,000	719,000	23,000,000	56,600,000	1.83	29.40	139,304,500
1916	76,374,000	79,100,000	1,350,000	1,200,000	21,300,000	78,200,000	2.40	35.80	141,959,100
1917	76,497,000	76,800,000	987,000	1,150,000	11,200,000	86,400,000	3.12	39.70	126,849,200
1918	70,776,000	73,200,000	800,000	1,280,000	8,700,000	72,800,000	3.46	37.40	110,411,180
1919	61,944,000	57,300,000	484,000	1,010,000	13,300,000	56,800,000	3.20	30.20	124,085,500
1920	68,690,000	70,400,000	1,290,000	1,160,000	11,600,000	70,500,000	4.14	33.70	124,085,500
1921	29,964,000	27,100,000	321,000	447,000	14,100,000	27,300,000	3.00	27.30	104,230,200
1922	47,885,000	51,400,000	1,150,000	612,000	10,700,000	51,800,000	3.32	32.20	132,067,900
1923	70,465,000	70,900,000	2,810,000	1,130,000	19,300,000	63,500,000	3.44	32.80	129,711,400
1924	55,138,000	52,900,000	2,080,000	605,000	20,800,000	55,100,000	2.83	27.00	151,267,000
1925	62,902,000	65,000,000	2,230,000	641,000	19,000,000	66,300,000	2.57	23.80	154,903,000
1926	68,708,000	70,400,000	2,600,000	852,000	17,500,000	72,000,000	2.52	23.10	171,300,000
1927	60,158,000	62,200,000	2,660,000	913,000	17,300,000	62,100,000	2.50	23.40	171,380,000
1928	63,195,000	64,500,000	2,490,000	1,300,000	15,900,000	65,800,000	2.45	23.30	199,500,000
1929	74,200,000	76,800,000	3,190,000	1,330,000	13,800,000	78,200,000	2.65	25.20	178,400,000
1930	59,346,000	56,100,000	2,820,000	764,000	17,100,000	58,100,000	2.47	24.20	118,780,000
1931	31,631,000	29,000,000	1,490,000	443,000	19,400,000	30,400,000	2.36	25.30	118,780,000
1932	9,639,200	5,420,000	592,000	84,800	23,200,000	6,350,000	1.41	16.80	76,200,000
1933	17,835,000	25,000,000	875,000	158,000	16,600,000	25,200,000	3.52	44.30	91,200,000
1934	24,982,000	26,200,000	1,450,000	619,000	15,800,000	26,600,000	2.64	32.20	120,100,000
1935	31,030,000	34,000,000	1,520,000	671,000	13,300,000	34,400,000	2.66	31.60	140,900,000
1936	49,572,000	52,300,000	2,270,000	656,000	10,500,000	54,000,000	2.64	31.10	170,000,000
1937	73,251,000	73,500,000	2,480,000	1,280,000	11,800,000	73,200,000	2.82	32.00	211,000,000
1938	28,904,000	26,900,000	2,160,000	601,000	13,100,000	29,200,000	2.56	29.60	162,000,000
1939	52,562,000	55,700,000	2,450,000	1,070,000	10,100,000	56,900,000	2.99	35.10	200,000,000
1940	74,879,000	76,400,000	2,520,000	1,410,000	8,540,000	77,500,000	2.52	29.30	203,600,000
1941	93,893,000	94,500,000	1,740,000	1,940,000	50,600,000	51,600,000	2.65	29.30	219,540,000
1942	107,220,000	107,000,000	743,000	2,560,000	58,300,000	97,700,000	2.61	26.10	235,000,000
1943	102,870,000	101,000,000	406,000	2,460,000	58,100,000	101,000,000	2.62	24.70	231,000,000
1944	95,628,000	96,700,000	471,000	2,190,000	43,200,000	109,000,000	2.69	24.90	203,000,000
1945	89,795,000	89,600,000	1,220,000	2,100,000	44,600,000	87,500,000	2.72	24.70	162,000,000
1946	71,980,000	71,200,000	2,800,000	1,530,000	44,700,000	73,200,000	3.01	25.10	154,000,000
1947	94,586,000	94,800,000	4,970,000	2,860,000	45,000,000	96,400,000	3.44	25.10	187,000,000
1948	102,620,000	102,000,000	6,190,000	3,130,000	49,900,000	101,000,000	3.88	26.20	219,000,000
1949	86,301,000	86,000,000	7,510,000	2,460,000	50,100,000	91,200,000	4.46	30.50	223,000,000

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<b>Year</b>	<b>Production</b>	<b>Shipments</b>	<b>Imports</b>	<b>Exports</b>	<b>Stocks</b>	<b>Apparent consumption</b>	<b>Unit value (\$/t)</b>	<b>Unit value (98\$/t)</b>	<b>World production</b>
1950	99,619,000	99,300,000	8,410,000	2,590,000	46,000,000	110,000,000	4.92	33.20	294,272,000
1951	118,370,000	118,000,000	10,300,000	4,400,000	53,800,000	116,000,000	5.40	34.00	297,295,300
1952	99,490,000	99,500,000	9,920,000	5,200,000	55,700,000	102,000,000	6.21	38.10	338,103,800
1953	119,890,000	120,000,000	11,300,000	4,320,000	59,600,000	123,000,000	6.81	41.50	305,762,000
1954	79,383,000	77,300,000	16,000,000	3,200,000	7,190,000	145,000,000	6.76	41.00	305,762,000
1955	104,660,000	107,000,000	23,800,000	4,590,000	54,400,000	76,700,000	7.21	44.00	369,248,700
1956	99,448,000	98,500,000	30,900,000	5,600,000	58,200,000	121,000,000	7.68	46.00	394,511,700
1957	107,850,000	106,000,000	34,200,000	5,080,000	66,200,000	129,000,000	8.10	46.80	433,523,800
1958	68,796,000	67,400,000	28,000,000	3,630,000	67,300,000	92,100,000	8.27	46.70	398,740,000
1959	61,243,000	60,100,000	36,200,000	3,010,000	69,100,000	92,600,000	8.48	47.40	432,182,000
1960	90,209,000	84,300,000	35,100,000	5,360,000	82,000,000	107,000,000	8.35	45.90	513,926,000
1961	72,474,000	73,500,000	26,200,000	5,040,000	76,500,000	99,100,000	9.13	49.60	494,604,000
1962	72,982,000	71,100,000	33,900,000	5,990,000	78,900,000	98,500,000	8.82	47.40	499,710,000
1963	74,780,000	74,700,000	33,800,000	6,920,000	72,600,000	108,000,000	9.22	49.00	515,135,000
1964	86,198,000	85,700,000	43,100,000	7,070,000	69,300,000	126,000,000	9.46	49.80	573,449,000
1965	88,842,000	85,400,000	45,800,000	7,200,000	70,100,000	127,000,000	9.25	47.70	611,187,000
1966	91,594,000	91,500,000	47,000,000	7,900,000	70,600,000	130,000,000	9.50	47.70	625,799,000
1967	85,530,000	83,700,000	45,300,000	6,000,000	72,200,000	123,000,000	9.64	47.00	612,820,000
1968	87,243,000	83,200,000	44,600,000	5,980,000	73,200,000	125,000,000	9.78	45.90	668,142,000
1969	89,746,000	91,400,000	41,400,000	5,240,000	68,200,000	131,000,000	10.15	45.13	701,495,000
1970	91,201,000	88,600,000	45,600,000	5,580,000	72,600,000	127,000,000	10.39	43.62	757,013,000
1971	82,058,000	78,300,000	40,800,000	3,110,000	80,100,000	112,000,000	10.92	43.96	774,677,000
1972	76,645,000	79,100,000	36,300,000	2,130,000	68,400,000	123,000,000	12.09	47.12	765,465,000
1973	89,076,000	92,000,000	44,000,000	2,790,000	60,900,000	138,000,000	12.75	46.77	832,343,000
1974	85,709,000	86,300,000	48,800,000	2,360,000	58,900,000	134,000,000	15.50	51.24	881,244,000
1975	80,132,000	76,900,000	47,500,000	2,580,000	70,300,000	114,000,000	19.44	58.89	901,551,000
1976	81,277,000	78,300,000	45,100,000	2,960,000	72,100,000	122,000,000	22.56	64.60	855,098,000
1977	56,645,000	54,900,000	38,500,000	2,180,000	61,000,000	104,000,000	25.00	67.26	827,816,000
1978	82,892,000	84,500,000	34,200,000	4,280,000	56,100,000	118,000,000	27.74	69.32	833,274,000
1979	87,092,000	87,600,000	34,300,000	5,230,000	56,500,000	116,000,000	30.79	69.16	888,789,000
1980	70,730,000	70,700,000	25,500,000	5,780,000	54,400,000	92,600,000	34.48	68.22	877,152,000
1981	74,348,000	73,300,000	28,800,000	5,640,000	56,400,000	95,500,000	37.46	67.14	844,606,000
1982	36,002,000	36,300,000	14,700,000	3,230,000	48,600,000	55,300,000	38.68	65.33	768,566,000
1983	38,165,000	45,300,000	13,500,000	3,840,000	33,300,000	63,100,000	46.31	75.78	728,247,000
1984	52,092,000	51,700,000	17,500,000	5,070,000	32,700,000	65,100,000	39.92	62.66	860,556,000
1985	49,533,000	50,200,000	16,000,000	5,110,000	30,100,000	63,000,000	38.58	58.47	863,650,000
1986	39,486,000	42,000,000	17,000,000	4,550,000	22,800,000	59,200,000	34.22	50.88	902,737,000
1987	47,648,000	48,000,000	16,800,000	5,090,000	21,000,000	61,200,000	29.64	42.52	967,218,000
1988	57,515,000	57,100,000	20,200,000	5,290,000	23,500,000	69,900,000	28.33	39.04	1,013,383,000
1989	59,032,000	58,300,000	19,600,000	5,370,000	21,700,000	75,100,000	31.31	41.18	983,000,000
1990	56,400,000	57,000,000	18,100,000	3,200,000	23,000,000	70,000,000	30.89	38.54	955,618,000
1991	56,761,000	56,800,000	13,300,000	4,050,000	25,400,000	63,600,000	30.11	36.03	924,887,000
1992	55,593,000	55,600,000	12,500,000	5,060,000	22,900,000	65,500,000	28.58	33.21	953,316,000
1993	55,676,000	56,300,000	14,100,000	5,060,000	21,300,000	66,300,000	25.79	29.11	991,858,000
1994	58,454,000	57,600,000	17,500,000	4,980,000	21,300,000	71,000,000	25.16	27.67	991,858,000
1995	62,581,000	61,100,000	17,600,000	5,260,000	23,500,000	72,700,000	27.73	29.66	1,034,539,000
1996	62,083,000	62,200,000	18,400,000	6,260,000	25,700,000	72,000,000	28.90	30.03	1,018,436,000
1997	62,971,000	62,800,000	18,500,000	6,340,000	27,900,000	72,900,000	29.92	30.39	1,068,727,000
1998	62,931,000	63,200,000	16,900,000	6,000,000	30,600,000	71,100,000	31.16	31.16	1,050,688,000
1999	57,749,000	58,500,000	14,300,000	6,120,000	26,400,000	70,100,000	26.77	26.19	1,019,051,000

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<b>Year</b>	<b>Production</b>	<b>Shipments</b>	<b>Imports</b>	<b>Exports</b>	<b>Stocks</b>	<b>Apparent consumption</b>	<b>Unit value (\$/t)</b>	<b>Unit value (98\$/t)</b>	<b>World production</b>
2000	63,089,000	61,000,000	15,700,000	6,150,000	28,800,000	70,200,000	25.81	24.44	1,061,148,000

## Iron Ore Worksheet Notes

### Data Sources

The sources of data for the iron ore worksheet are the mineral statistics publications of the U.S. Bureau of Mines and the U.S. Geological Survey—Minerals Yearbook (MYB) and its predecessor, Mineral Resources of the United States (MR). The years of publication and corresponding years of data coverage are listed in the References section below. Blank cells in the worksheet indicate that data were not available.

### Production

Production data were recorded from the MR and the MYB.

### Shipments

Shipment data were recorded from the MR and the MYB. Data were not available for the years 1900–09 and 1923.

### Imports

Import data were recorded from the MR and the MYB.

### Exports

Export data were recorded from the MR and the MYB.

### Stocks

Stock data are the sum of stocks at mines, plants, and loading docks, receiving docks, and consuming plants. Data were recorded from the MR and the MYB.

### Apparent Consumption

For the years 1901–2000, apparent consumption was calculated with the following formula:

$$\text{APPARENT CONSUMPTION} = \text{PRODUCTION} + \text{IMPORTS} - \text{EXPORTS} \pm \text{STOCK CHANGES.}$$

For the year 1900, stock change was not included, because stocks were not available for 1899.

### Unit Value

Unit value is the value of 1 metric ton (t) of iron ore apparent consumption. Unit value was estimated by weight averaging the value of shipments and the value of imports.

### Unit Value (98\$/t)

The Consumer Price Index conversion factor, with 1998 as the base year, is used to adjust unit value in current U.S. dollars to the unit value in constant 1998 U.S. dollars.

### World Production

World production represents the world production of iron ore, iron ore concentrates, and iron ore agglomerates. For the years 1913–22, world production is reported as “production in principal countries.” A graph of the time series for world production gives a smooth curve when the category name changes, indicating that major producers were included. World production data were recorded from the MR and the MYB.

### References

U.S. Bureau of Mines, 1927–34, Mineral Resources of the United States, 1924–31.  
U.S. Bureau of Mines, 1933–96, Minerals Yearbook, 1932–94.  
U.S. Geological Survey, 1901–27, Mineral Resources of the United States, 1900–23.  
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